On the Synonymy of the Genera of Euryalidæ.
By Dr. J. E. Gray, F.R.S. &c.

Having occasion to examine and determine the Red-Sea Radiata presented to the British Museum by Mr. M'Andrew, I had occasion to use MM. Dujardin and Hupé's work. The following corrections and additions to his synonymy occurred to me. They chiefly arise from the almost universal habit of French zoologists to ignore the works of any other country. In the 'Synopsis of the British Museum' for 1840 I gave the characters of the families and genera; so there is no excuse for their not being quoted.

Euryalidæ, Gray, Syn. Brit. Mus. 1840, p. 63, = *Euryalidies*, Dujardin & Hupé, 1862, p. 292.

I. Euryale, Gray, Syn. B. M. 1840, p. 62. *Euryale*, pars, Link. *Trichaster*, Agassiz, Dujardin & Hupé, 1862, p. 300.

1. *Euryale palmiferus*, Lam.

II. Astrophyton, Gray, Syn. B. M. 1840, p. 62; Müller & Troschel, Lütken, Duj. & Hupé, 1862, p. 301.
Gorgonocephalus, Leach, Zool. Misc.

1. *Astrophyton verrucosum*, Lam. &c.

III. Laspalia, Gray, Syn. B. M. 1840, p. 64, with characters.
Asterochema, Lütken, Addit. ad Hist. Ophiur. 1859, p. 255; Dujardin & Hupé, Echinod. p. 296.

1. *Laspalia oligactes* = *Asterias oligactes*, Pallas. *Asterochema oligactes*, Lütken, *l. c.*; Dujard. & Hupé, p. 297. *Ophiura cirrosa*, Say. *Trichaster leptocladia*, Mus. Paris.
Euryale simplex, Gray, Encycl. Metropol.

West Indies and Central America.

IV. Natalia, Gray, Syn. B. M. 1840, p. 64.
Asteroporpa, Lütken, Addit. ad Hist. Ophiur. 1859, p. 152.

1. *Natalia annulata.*
Asteroporpa annulata, Lütken, *l. c.* p. 159, t. 5. f. 4; Dujardin & Hupé, Echinod. p. 298, t. 2. f. 6.

Central America.

On a New Species of Paradoxornis. By the Abbé A. David.

Father Heude, Missionary at Shanghai, busies himself actively in studying and collecting the natural productions of the province in which he dwells. Among the birds in his collection which he showed me as I passed through that city there are several which do not yet figure in the ornithological catalogues of the Chinese Empire. Of these I observed one which is particularly interesting, belonging to that curious group of Insectivora *with a stout and compressed beak*, which is represented in Eastern Asia by the genera *Conostoma*, *Cholornis*, *Paradoxornis*, and *Suthora*.

The bird in question appears to me to be intermediate between the last two genera, and may, perhaps, form a new genus. I place it provisionally in the genus *Paradoxornis*, of which it presents the principal characters.

M. Heude having allowed me to take the description of his bird, which is unique in his collection, I hasten to send it to you, and regard it as my duty to dedicate to him this new species, under the name of *Paradoxornis Heudei.*

Total length	18 centims.
Length of the tail	$9\frac{1}{2}$ „
„ of the closed wing	57 millims.
„ of the tarse	24 „

Bill yellow; feet of a yellowish grey; claws grey.

Tail long, much graduated, with the feathers black, terminated by a broad white spot; the median feathers unicolorous yellowish grey.

Wings short and round, with the quill-feathers black, surrounded by a margin of reddish grey; lesser coverts of a cinnamon fulvous, as well as the feathers of the insertion of the wings.

Stalks of the rectrices and remiges black above, white beneath.

Head grey in the middle; two broad black streaks above the eyes, like eyebrows; neck grey; parotic region of a rosy grey; back rosy grey, with a few elongated brown spots; rump reddish yellow.

Throat white; breast of a vinous rosy colour; flanks reddish; middle of the belly whitish, as are also the subcaudals.

M. Heude killed this pretty bird in December 1871 among the reeds (*Phragmites*) which border a lake of the Kiang-Sou; these it traverses in little flocks. According to that naturalist, it possesses an agreeable voice and has the climbing (or rather clinging) habits of the allied genera—*Comptes Rendus*, June 3, 1872, p. 1449.

Investigations on Fossil Birds. By M. A. Milne-Edwards.

At the moment when my investigations upon fossil birds approach their termination, and before the last part is given to the public, I will ask the Academy's permission to explain in a few words the results at which I have arrived during these studies, which have lasted fully twelve years.

I believe I have demonstrated, by the examination of the bones which have been found in the recent deposits in the Mascarene Islands, and which belong, for the most part, to extinct species, such as the dodo, the solitaire, the *Aphanapteryx*, *Fulica Newtoni*, large Parrots, &c., that these islands have once been part of a vast extent of land, that these lands by little and little and by a slow depression have been hidden under the waters of the ocean, only leaving visible some of their highest points, such as the islands of Mauritius, Rodriguez, and Bourbon. These islands have served as a refuge for the last representatives of the terrestrial population of these ancient epochs; but the species, confined in too limited a space and exposed to all causes of destruction, have disappeared by degrees; and man has in some measure aided in their extinction.

Madagascar evidently was not in communication with these islands; for when Europeans visited them for the first time, they did not find